



# HF Happenings 783

Volume 15, Issue 46, the week of 19 February 2018



## "Awesome" Activity for the 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase

"On-the-air activity for the 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase (IGC <https://igc.arrl.org/>) has been awesome!" ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, said this week. "The year also began with DXpeditions, as well as several contests at both HF and VHF, to boost numbers. Facebook and social media (Facebook, Twitter #IGC) are abuzz with chatter about the event, the excitement, the grids worked."

Jahnke said the statistics show the highest overall activity on 40 and 20 metres, not surprising in the winter and especially strong digital activity. He expects phone and CW activity to perk up this month and next with the ARRL International DX Contest CW weekend on 17 and 18 February and the phone weekend on 3 and 4 March. He also anticipates that February's statistics will come on strong as participants re-work January grid squares to boost their February scores. As of the January activity upload deadline of 10 February 10 at 23:59 UTC, some 23 300 station sites were active in the IGC.

"The leader board reporting system continues to evolve, with much helpful participant feedback," Jahnke said. That user input is improving how ARRL reports participation <https://igc.arrl.org/leader-board.php>.

"From the statistics, it's clear that during this period of low sunspots and low winter E-skip and F2, most of the activity on the mid-to-lower bands is digital modes," Jahnke said. "As we get into the summer E-skip season, we expect to see activity above 15 metres begin its ascent in the totals."

Jahnke said it is apparent that participants are taking advantage of CW (and FT8 and other digital modes) on HF to overcome some of the weakened propagation on the low- to medium-frequency bands, and of FT8, JT65, and FSK144/MSK144 on 6 metres and above to rack up impressive totals. "Not to be outdone, in comparison to overall band totals, phone contacts on 80, 40, 20, and 17 meters are strong, and 2-metre and 70-centimetre contacts were strong in January as well," Jahnke

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### February

- 15 – Closing date for PEARS VHF Logs
- 16 to 18 – KykNET Buite-expo, Western Cape, Môreson Farm, Malmesbury
- 17 - SARL Youth Sprint; Pretoria ARC rally communications at HMC
- 17 and 18 - ARRL DX CW Contest
- 19 - Closing date for Nation Field Day logs and AWA CW logs
- 21 – at 05:00 on 21 February 1917, the sinking of the SS Mendi
- 22 – closing date for the March Radio ZS
- 23 to 25 – Beeld Holiday Show, Gallagher Convention Centre
- 24 and 25 – Clarens Beer Festival
- 24 – closing date Youth logs; West Rand Flea market and CTARC meeting
- 25 – SARL Digital Contest

### March

- 3 - World Wildlife Day; ARRL DX SSB contest; Cape Town ARC bumper flea market/boot sale under the trees at the club house
- 4 - SARL Hamnet 40 m contest; ARRL DX SSB contest
- 5 - Closing date for Digital contest logs
- 8 - International Women's Day
- 10 and 11 - SARL VHF/UHF Analogue contest
- 82<sup>nd</sup> RSGB Commonwealth contest
- 12 - Closing date for Hamnet logs
- 19 - Closing date VHF/UHF Analogue logs
- 20 - Autumn Equinox; International Day of Happiness
- 21 - SA Human Right's Day; World Down Syndrome Day; International Day of Forests
- 22 - World Water Day
- 23 - World Meteorological Day
- 24 - Cape Town ARC meeting
- 24 and 25 - CQ WPX SSB Contest
- 26 - Closing date for April Radio ZS
- 28 - Provincial schools close
- 30 - Good Friday/Pesach
- 31 - Pesach

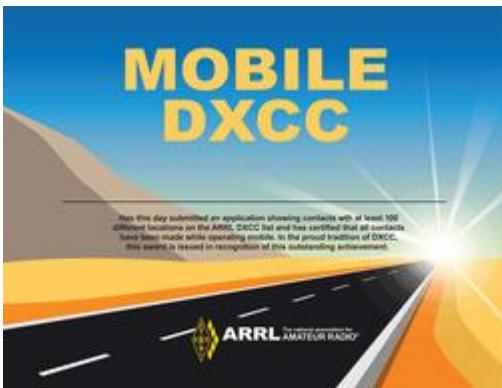
added. Several contests in January, including the ARRL RTTY Roundup and ARRL January VHF Contest contributed to these strong phone and digital numbers.

During January, IGC-eligible contacts matched in Logbook of The World (LoTW) topped 22 000 on 40 metres and 23 000 on 20 metres, the two bands with the greatest activity, with nearly half the contacts being made on digital modes in both bands. On the new 630-metre band, 31 IGC-eligible contacts turned up in LoTW.

The waterfront campsite of Kent O'Sell, K7CAR, in DM25 in Nevada.



## ARRL Announces Mobile DXCC Operating Award



This week, the ARRL announced a Mobile DXCC Operating Award <http://www.arrl.org/mobile-DXCC>, available to radio amateurs who have contacted at least 100 DXCC entities from a working vehicle, with antennas and power source capable of operating while in motion. ARRL Radiosport Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, advised those pursuing the award to put safety first.

"Distracted driving is a serious concern, so we hope all mobile operators exercise care when operating from a moving vehicle," he said. Full, official details are on the Mobile DXCC Operating Award page.

The Mobile DXCC is a one-time award and is non-endorsable. Contacts made any time in the past do count toward the award. QSLs are required, but you do not need to submit them.

Mobile stations may use any power that is legal in the entity from which they are operating. This award specifically *excludes* contacts made by aeronautical or maritime mobile stations. You do not have to be an ARRL member to qualify for this award.

Because this award is similar to the QRP DXCC Operating Award <http://www.arrl.org/QRP-DXCC>, the ARRL has redesigned the QRP DXCC Certificate so that the two awards complement one another. Operators who hold the QRP DXCC award may apply for the new-style certificate with the original date of issue printed on the certificate, but you do not have to re-submit QSL cards or a log. All certificates are \$16.

## 3Y0I Bouvet Island DXpedition Revived

Peripatetic Polish DXpeditioner Dom Grzyb, 3Z9DX, and four other operators announced over the weekend that their postponed plans to mount the 3Y0I DXpedition to Bouvet Island are back on <https://bouvetoya.org/>. This comes as the 3Y0Z DXpedition team members <http://www.bouvetdx.org/>, who were unsuccessful earlier this month in landing on the remote South Atlantic island, are currently en route to South Africa on their way back home. According to the latest ClubLog DXCC Most-Wanted List, Bouvet is the second most-wanted DXCC entity, behind North Korea.



"Our trip, planned originally at the end of 2017, was cancelled at the request of the organizers of the 3Y0Z expedition," an announcement said. "Due to the cancellation by the 3Y0Z organizers, we are now returning to the implementation of our project and preparations for our trip as a matter of urgency."



*DX-World* has reported that the 3Y0I license has been renewed and a landing permit, good for 1 year, issued by the Norwegian Polar Institute. While no specific dates for the DXpedition have been announced, the 3Y0I team said its plans call for operating during the sub-Antarctic summer, which suggests they could be on the air late this year.

The 3Y0I team said it has chartered a seagoing yacht adapted for extreme weather conditions to make the 12-day, 2 800-nautical mile trip from South Africa to Bouvet Island. The

team anticipates operating for about 2 weeks. The participants have financed the trip out of their own pockets. In addition to 3Z9DX, the 3Y0I operators will include Stanislaw, SQ8X; Leszek, SP3DOI; Branko, YU4DX, and Frans, J69DX.

## Z60A Operation Has Moved Kosovo Down the Most-Wanted List a Few Notches

What a difference a week makes! The ongoing Z60A special operation to celebrate the addition of Kosovo to the DXCC List and Kosovo's 10th anniversary of independence appears to have put a big dent in demand for the new entity, which briefly stood at the top of the heap. According to Club Log's DXCC Most-Wanted List <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php> as of 14 February, the Republic of Kosovo now is in the #8 position after rocketing into the #1 slot when it became a DXCC entity on 21 January. The #2 and #3 slots are held by Bouvet Island and Crozet Island, respectively, while North Korea is back at #1.

With two stations on the air, Z60A operations are expected to continue through February 19 and will include participation in the ARRL International DX Contest (CW) over the 17 and 18 February. Z60A continues to attract huge pileups. (Z60A may be operating split; listen to the operators' instructions.)

"The departing German/Slovenian team of DJ5IW, DM5TI, DD2ML, and S57AW did a fantastic job while introducing the data modes, RTTY and FT8," said Martti Laine, OH2BH, a long-time supporter of Amateur Radio in Kosovo. "They made up to 10 000 digital QSOs, with the Z60A total now reaching 70 000." The Z60A location at the headquarters of Kosovo's IARU Member Society SHRAK was on SSB mode, helmed by local Z6 operators; the call sign also was active during the CQ Worldwide WPX RTTY event this past weekend.

Local manmade noise continues to hamper Z60A operation. "Many are wondering why it is not possible to eliminate the noise by setting up camp in a quiet open field," Laine said. "The underlying fact is that Pristina is more than 650 meters above sea level and this winter has been particularly cold, with -13 °C temperatures experienced during the activation period."

Considering that Kosovo will remain on the DXCC horizon and that this is the very first activation, Laine added, "Not all noise and other challenges are expected to be resolved." A remote location may be operational within the week, however. Testing indicated "dramatically better" reception than in Pristina.

Laine said the celebratory Z60A operation has served to bring in operators from as many other countries as possible, helping hams in Kosovo to "expand their network of friends."

Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, pointed out in the recent edition of the European DX Foundation (EUDXF <http://www.eudxf.org/>) newsletter that Amateur Radio had been nearly non-existent for more than 25 years and all radio equipment was confiscated. This has created a current need for affordable used gear. "Please consider [donating] one of your spare radios that is only catching dust in your garage," he said. Those wishing to donate to support Amateur Radio in Kosovo should contact Wayne Mills, N7NG, [n7ng@arrl.net](mailto:n7ng@arrl.net).

## African DX

*Contacts with stations on the African continent count towards the SARL's All Africa Award.*

Tanzania, 5H. John, KB7LBY, will be active as 5H2LBY while ascending Mt Kilimanjaro between 25 February and 2 March. Activity will be limited during his climb and on 40/20 metres running QRP into a magnetic-loop antenna. QSL via LoTW.

Benin, TY (Update). Members of the F6KOP team, the Provins ARC, will be active as TY7C from Ouidah between 8 and 17 March. Operators mentioned are Jean-Luc, F1ULQ/AK8DX (Team Leader, SSB operator), Damien, F4AZF (Co-leader, SSB operator), Raymond, F5MFV (RTTY, Digi operator), Xavier, F5NTZ (CW operator), Jo, DJ3CQ (CW



Z60A operators Henri Olander, OH3JR, and Jaakko Silanto, OH1MA, built the second operating site. [Photo courtesy of Martti Laine, OH2BH]



Shoqata e Radioamatorëve të Kosovës  
Kosovo Amateur Radio Association  
Asociacioni Radioamatere Kosova

**Z60A**

operator), Arno, DL1CW (CW operator), Christian, DL2MDU, Andreas, DL3GA/AB8AY (CW operator), Philipp, OE7PGI (RTTY, Digi operator) and Henri, F1HRE (RTTY operator). The pilot station will be Frank, F4AJQ. Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and the digital modes. They plan to have four stations on the air. QSL via F5GSJ direct, LoTW or ClubLog's OQRS. For more details, see <https://ty2018dx.wordpress.com>

Morocco, CN. M'hamed, CN8NK, in Rabat, will be active as CN4P during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (24 and 25 March) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (??m) entry. QSL via EA5XX.

## African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Cape Verde, D4. Rudi, DK7PE, is now active as D44TPE from Santiago Island. The length of his stay is unknown. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands. QSL via DK7PE.

## Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 12 to 19 February 2018

Classic Exchange, Phone

14:00 UTC 18 February to 08:00 UTC 19 February and  
14:00 UTC 20 February to 08:00 UTC 21 February

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: AM, SSB, FM

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Name, RS, state, province or country and  
rcvr/xmtr manuf/model

Work stations: Once per band per mode per rcr/xmtr  
manuf/model

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = sum (total mode QSO  
points x total mode mults) and Bonus Points

Submit logs by: 30 April 2018

E-mail logs to: [k2rp@arrl.net](mailto:k2rp@arrl.net)

Mail logs to: K2RP, 659 Shanas Lane, Encinitas, CA  
92024, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.classicexchange.org/jan18/jan18ann.html>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

02:00 - 04:00 UTC 19 February

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and state, province or country and  
member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3  
points per QSO with member on same continent; 5  
points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once;

Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x to-  
tal mults

Submit logs by: 25 February 2018

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: [http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/au-  
tolog.php](http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/au-<br/>tolog.php)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/>

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 21 February

Geographic Focus: United States

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and  
power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 22 February 2018

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: [http://www.qrpfcohunt.org/win-  
ter\\_rules.htm](http://www.qrpfcohunt.org/win-<br/>ter_rules.htm)

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 21 February

<p>Geographic Focus: North America  Participation: Worldwide  Mode: SSB  Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m  Classes: Single Op  Max power: 100 watts  Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name  Work stations: Once per band  QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station  Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band  Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 23 February 2018  E-mail logs to: (none)  Post log summary at: <a href="http://www.3830scores.com">http://www.3830scores.com</a>  Mail logs to: (none)  Find rules at: <a href="http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf">http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf</a></p>	<p>QSO Points: 1 point per QSO  Multipliers: (none)  Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points  Submit logs by: 15 March 2018  E-mail logs to: <a href="mailto:semiautomatic@agcw.de">semiautomatic@agcw.de</a>  Mail logs to: Manager: Ulf-Dietmar Ernst, DK9KR, Elbstrasse 60, D-28199 Bremen, Germany  Find rules at: <a href="http://www.agcw.org/index.php/en/contests-and-cw-activities/semi-automatic-key-evening">http://www.agcw.org/index.php/en/contests-and-cw-activities/semi-automatic-key-evening</a></p>
<p>CWops Mini-CWT Test  13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 21 February and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 22 February  Geographic Focus: Worldwide  Participation: Worldwide  Awards: Worldwide  Mode: CW  Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m  Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high  Max power: HP: &gt;100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts  Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country  Work stations: Once per band  QSO Points: 1 point per QSO  Multipliers: Each call once  Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 24 February 2018  Post log summary at: <a href="http://www.3830scores.com">http://www.3830scores.com</a>  Mail logs to: (none)  Find rules at: <a href="http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html">http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html</a></p>	<p>RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW  20:00 - 21:30 UTC 22 February  Geographic Focus: United Kingdom  Participation: Worldwide  Awards: United Kingdom  Mode: CW  Bands: 80 m Only  Classes: (none)  Exchange: RST and serial no  QSO Points: 1 point per QSO  Multipliers: (none)  Score Calculation: (see rules)  Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 23 February 2018  Upload log at: <a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl">http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl</a>  Mail logs to: (none)  Find rules at: <a href="http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2018/r80_mcc.shtml">http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2018/r80_mcc.shtml</a></p>
<p>NCCC RTTY Sprint  01:45 - 02:15 UTC 23 February  Geographic Focus: North America  Participation: Worldwide  Mode: RTTY  Bands: (see rules)  Classes: (none)  Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH  Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  Submit logs by: 25 February 2018  E-mail logs to: (none)  Post log summary at: <a href="http://www.3830scores.com">http://www.3830scores.com</a>  Mail logs to: (none)  Find rules at: <a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html">http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html</a></p>	<p>NCCC RTTY Sprint  01:45 - 02:15 UTC 23 February  Geographic Focus: North America  Participation: Worldwide  Mode: RTTY  Bands: (see rules)  Classes: (none)  Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH  Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  Submit logs by: 25 February 2018  E-mail logs to: (none)  Post log summary at: <a href="http://www.3830scores.com">http://www.3830scores.com</a>  Mail logs to: (none)  Find rules at: <a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html">http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html</a></p>
<p>QRP Fox Hunt  02:00 - 03:30 UTC 23 February  Geographic Focus: United States  Participation: Worldwide  Mode: CW  Bands: 80 m Only  Classes: Single Op - fox or hound  Max power: 5 watts  Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output  QSO Points: 1 point per QSO</p>	<p>QRP Fox Hunt  02:00 - 03:30 UTC 23 February  Geographic Focus: United States  Participation: Worldwide  Mode: CW  Bands: 80 m Only  Classes: Single Op - fox or hound  Max power: 5 watts  Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output  QSO Points: 1 point per QSO</p>

<p>Multipliers: (none)</p> <p>Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points</p> <p>Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 24 February 2018</p> <p>E-mail logs to: (see rules)</p> <p>Mail logs to: (none)</p> <p>Find rules at: <a href="http://www.grpfoxyhunt.org/winter_rules.htm">http://www.grpfoxyhunt.org/winter_rules.htm</a></p>	<p>Participation: Worldwide</p> <p>Awards: Worldwide</p> <p>Mode: SSB</p> <p>Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m</p> <p>Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single - QRP, low or high; Club; SWL</p> <p>Max operating hours: Single Op: 28 hours in no more than 3 increments of at least 1 hour each</p> <p>Max power: HP: &gt;100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts; QRP: 5 Watts</p> <p>Exchange: French: RS and Department/Prefix; non-French: RS and serial no</p> <p>Work stations: Once per band</p> <p>QSO Points: French: 6 points per QSO with French station same continent; French: 15 points per QSO with French station on different continent; French: 1 point per QSO with non-French station same continent; French: 2 points per QSO with non-French station on different continent; non-French: 1 point per QSO with French station same continent; non-French: 3 points per QSO with French station on different continent</p>
<p>NCCC Sprint</p> <p>02:30 - 03:00 UTC 23 February</p> <p>Geographic Focus: North America</p> <p>Participation: Worldwide</p> <p>Mode: CW</p> <p>Bands: (see rules)</p> <p>Classes: (none)</p> <p>Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH</p> <p>Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults</p> <p>Submit logs by: 25 February 2018</p> <p>E-mail logs to: (none)</p> <p>Post log summary at: <a href="http://www.3830scores.com/">http://www.3830scores.com/</a></p> <p>Mail logs to: (none)</p> <p>Find rules at: <a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html">http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html</a></p>	<p>Participation: Worldwide</p> <p>Awards: RS and serial no</p> <p>Mode: CW</p> <p>Bands: (see rules)</p> <p>Classes: (none)</p> <p>Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH</p> <p>Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults</p> <p>Submit logs by: 25 February 2018</p> <p>E-mail logs to: (none)</p> <p>Post log summary at: <a href="http://www.3830scores.com/">http://www.3830scores.com/</a></p> <p>Mail logs to: (none)</p> <p>Find rules at: <a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html">http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html</a></p>
<p>CQ 160-Metre SSB Contest</p> <p>22:00 UTC 23 February to 22:00 UTC 25 February</p> <p>Geographic Focus: Worldwide</p> <p>Participation: Worldwide</p> <p>Awards: Worldwide</p> <p>Mode: SSB</p> <p>Bands: 160 m Only</p> <p>Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Single Op Assisted – high; Multi-Op - high</p> <p>Max operating hours: Single Op: 30 hours; Multi-Op: 40 hours</p> <p>Max power: HP: &gt;150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts</p> <p>Exchange: W/VE: RS and state or province; DX: RS and CQ Zone</p>	<p>QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with own country; 5 points per QSO with other countries on same continent; 10 points per QSO with other continents; 5 points per QSO with maritime mobile</p> <p>Multipliers: Each US state and DC (excluding KH6/KL7); Each VE province; Each DXCC and WAE country (including KH6/KL7)</p> <p>Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults</p> <p>Submit logs by: 12 March 2018</p> <p>E-mail logs to: (none)</p> <p>Upload log at: <a href="http://concours.r-e-f.org/test/logs/upload-form">http://concours.r-e-f.org/test/logs/upload-form</a></p> <p>Mail logs to: (none)</p> <p>Find rules at: <a href="http://concours.r-e-f.org/reglements/actuels/reg_cdfhf_dx.pdf">http://concours.r-e-f.org/reglements/actuels/reg_cdfhf_dx.pdf</a></p>
<p>REF SSB Contest</p> <p>06:00 UTC 24 February to 18:00 UTC 25 February</p> <p>Geographic Focus: France and overseas territories</p>	<p>UBA DX CW Contest</p> <p>13:00 UTC 24 February to 13:00 UTC 25 February</p> <p>Geographic Focus: Belgium</p> <p>Participation: Worldwide</p> <p>Awards: Europe</p> <p>Mode: CW</p> <p>Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m</p> <p>Classes: Single Op All Band - low or high; Single Op Single Band - low or high; Single Op QRP; Multi-Op SWL</p> <p>Max power: HP: &gt;100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts</p> <p>Exchange: ON: RST, serial no and province; non-ON: RST and serial no</p> <p>Work stations: Once per band</p> <p>QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with Belgian station; 3 points per QSO with other EU stations; 1 point per QSO with non-EU stations</p>

Multipliers: Each Belgian province once per band; Each Belgian prefix once per band; Each EU DXCC country once per band  
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 11 March 2018  
 E-mail logs to: [ubacw@uba.be](mailto:ubacw@uba.be)  
 Mail logs to: (none)  
 Find rules at: <http://www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules/uba-dx-contest-rules>

**South Carolina QSO Party**  
 15:00 UTC 24 February to 01:59 UTC 25 February  
 Geographic Focus: United States/Canada state/province QSO party  
 Participation: Worldwide  
 Awards: Worldwide  
 Mode: CW, Digital, Phone  
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m  
 Classes: Single Op Fixed - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single Fixed - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Multi Fixed - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Mobile-Single - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Mobile-Multi - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high  
 Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W; QRP: 5 W  
 Exchange: SC: RS(T) and County; non-SC: RS(T) and state, province or "DX"  
 Work stations: Once per band per mode per county  
 QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW or Digital QSO; SC stations contacting non-SC stations earn double QSO points; Bonus: 250 points per QSO with W4CAE, WW4SF; 50 points per QSO with Chesterfield county  
 Multipliers: SC: Each SC county, US state (including DC) and VE province/territory once per mode; non-SC: Each SC county once per mode  
 Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and Bonus Points  
 Submit logs by: 26 March 2018  
 E-mail logs to: (none)  
 Upload log at: <http://scqso.com/log-submission/>  
 Mail logs to: (none)  
 Find rules at: <http://scqso.com/rules/>

**North American RTTY QSO Party**  
 18:00 UTC 24 February to 05:59 UTC 25 February  
 Geographic Focus: North America  
 Participation: Worldwide  
 Awards: North America  
 Mode: RTTY  
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m  
 Classes: Single Op - QRP or low; Multi-Two - low  
 Max operating hours: Single Op: 10 hours; Multi-Two: 12 hours  
 Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, DC, province or country; non-NA: Name  
 Work stations: Once per band  
 QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station  
 Multipliers: Each US state/DC (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band  
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  
 Submit logs by: 05:59 UTC March 2, 2018  
 Upload log at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/naqplogsubmit/>  
 Mail logs to: Mark Aaker, K6UFO, 300 Berry St., Unit 1009, San Francisco, CA 94158-1668, USA  
 Find rules at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

**High Speed Club CW Contest**  
 09:00 - 11:00 UTC and 15:00 - 17:00 UTC 25 February  
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide  
 Participation: Worldwide  
 Awards: Worldwide  
 Mode: CW  
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m  
 Classes: HSC Members; Non-Members; QRP; SWL  
 Max power: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts  
 Exchange: Members: RST and HSC no; non-Members: RST and "NM"  
 Work stations: Once per band per period  
 QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with a HSC member; 1 points per QSO with a non-member  
 Multipliers: (none)  
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points  
 Submit logs by: 17 March 2018  
 E-mail logs to: (none)  
 Upload log at: <https://sites.google.com/view/hsc-contest>  
 Mail logs to: (none)  
 Find rules at: <http://www.highspeedclub.org/>

**SARL Digital Contest**  
 13:00 - 16:00 UTC 25 February  
 Geographic Focus: Southern Africa  
 Participation: Southern Africa  
 Awards: Southern Africa  
 Mode: RTTY, FT8  
 Bands: 80, 40, 20 m  
 Classes: (none)  
 Exchange: RST and QSO no  
 Work stations: Once per mode per band  
 QSO Points: (see rules)  
 Multipliers: (see rules)  
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults  
 Submit logs by: 4 March 2018

E-mail logs to: [contest@sarl.org.za](mailto:contest@sarl.org.za)  
Mail logs to: (none)  
Find rules at: <http://www.sarl.org.za/Web3/Members/DoDocDown-load.aspx?X=201712180812348XdiUz5yFy.PDF>

North Carolina QSO Party  
15:00 UTC 25 February to 00:59 UTC 26 February  
Geographic Focus: United States/Canada state/province QSO party  
Participation: Worldwide  
Awards: Worldwide  
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital  
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m  
Classes: Single Op – NC or non-NC – CW, phone or digital – low; Single Op – NC or non-NC - mixed - QRP, low or high; NC Mobile Mixed – low; NC Mobile Lone Ranger Mixed – low; NC Club Mixed - low or high; NC Club Phone – low; NC County Expedition Mixed - QRP or low  
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts CW or dig/10 watts phone  
Exchange: NC: County; non-NC: state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode  
QSO Points: 2 points per phone QSO; 3 points per CW QSO; 3 points per digital QSO  
Bonus Points: 50 points for at least one QSO with Columbus (COL) county; 50 points for at least one QSO with Alleghany (ALL) county; 50 points for at least one QSO with NI4BK; 50 points for at least one QSO with W4DW; 50 points for at least one QSO with W1VOA; 50 points for at least one QSO with NC4QP; 200 points if all 6 other bonus points worked  
Bonus Points for NC Mobiles/Expeditions: 100 points for each county activated  
Multipliers: NC stations: Each NC county, state, province, and one DXCC country once  
Non-NC stations: Each NC county once  
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points  
Submit logs by: 12 March 2018  
E-mail logs to: (none)  
Upload log at: <http://www.ncqsoparty.org/logs>  
Mail logs to: NC QSO Party, c/o Charles Swindell, 10809 Rondeau Woods Ct., Raleigh, NC 27614, USA  
Find rules at: <http://ncqsoparty.org/rules/>

## Latest from the Republic of Kosovo (initial operation closing)

Pristina, Kosovo - Monday morning 19 February 2018. ES2RR, OG2M, OH1MA, OH2BH and Z62FB left Pristina and crossed the Albanian border at 14:00 today on their way to their Albanian homes. They plan to work on antennas at ZA1EM and ZA1F tomorrow before finally heading to their respective countries on Wednesday. They left a piece of their hearts and left their Kosovo operating sites in intact for their return over the weekend of the ARRL DX (SSB) Contest in two weeks.

The first Kosovo activation resulted in 81 478 QSOs with 26 487 individual callsigns. Of the total number of QSOs, some 22% (17 876) were from North America and 10% (8 255) were with DXers in Asia. Europe was obviously dominating with 66% (53 725) QSOs.

Delegates from ten (10) different countries were part of the initial activity. They returned home with many fond memories of this now 10-year-old Republic, which was finally granted DXCC status on 21 January 2018.

The festivities surrounding Kosovo's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary were warm and memorable. The entire country - particularly the capital Pristina - were the party grounds, with the main street full of people listening to the open-air street concerts, featuring the famous British singer Rita Ora, a Kosovo native. The evening was cold - below the freezing mark - but the warmth of the occasion overrode the cold February night at 650 meters above sea level.

In the comfort of the city centre, the Government of Kosovo offered a memorable reception and luncheon marking Amateur Radio's past ten years toward this memorable day. Martti Laine, OH2BH of Project Goodwill Kosovo and Hans Blondeel-Timmerman, PB2T of the International Amateur Radio Union were personally awarded plaques commemorating their support in making this day happen.

Kosovo's good name is now carved in stone, and many Kosovar voices will continue to penetrate the radio spectrum. A new DXCC counter was born! Please kindly look at your QSOs in Club Log and at QRZ.com (Z60A). In the case of errors, please allow the group look at problems and correct them accordingly. For a next three weeks, errors will be worked out and the log will be entered in Logbook of the World (LoTW). Early donors will receive their direct QSL cards with others to follow immediately thereafter. Thank you for being part of the first (Z60A) Kosovo activation.

N7NG

Kosovo, Z68M. Mome, Z32ZM, informs that the next two weekends in Feb/March he will be active on all HF bands 160 - 10 meters using all modes (CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8 and JT65). This will be a ONE-MAN DX activity. Mome said, "I have had this licence for a few weeks earlier but did not wanted to interrupt and mix-up with the SHARK's

Z60A celebration and activity." QSL via ClubLog's OQRS is strongly recommended for direct and Bureau QSL cards. However, for those who wish direct QSLs, but do not have PayPal, Mome is OK on QRZ.com ([www.qrz.com/db/z32zm](http://www.qrz.com/db/z32zm)) and PLEASE USE ONLY WHITE ENVELOPES (Air-Mail envelopes are still target of post office robbery here in Macedonia). QSL cards for this operation will be printed after this activity with logos and call signs of main supporters via My PayPal address [z32zm@t.mk](mailto:z32zm@t.mk). Another, bigger activity from Kosovo is planned for later this year and let us hope that by then 6 m – 50 MHz will be allowed for amateur radio use. For sure, that will be a BIG PLEASURE for all of us ..... in any case: STAY TUNED ON SIX!"

## Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 UTC-02:00 UTC 28 February  
QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 28 February  
Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 28 February  
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 28 February and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 1 March  
UKEICC 80 m Contest, 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 28 February  
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 2 March  
QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 2 March  
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 2 March  
ARRL International DX SSB Contest, 00:00 UTC 3 March to 24:00 UTC 4 March  
Novice Rig Roundup, 00:00 UTC 3 March to 24:00 UTC 10 March  
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint, 06:00 – 06:29 UTC and 06:30 – 06:59 UTC and 07:00 – 07:29 UTC and 07:30 -08:00 UTC 3 March  
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship 18:00 – 20:59 UTC (Low Band) and 21:00 - 23:59 UTC 3 March (Low Band)  
and 08:00 - 10:59 UTC (High Band) and 11:00 – 13:59 UTC 4 March (High Band)  
UBA Spring Contest, CW, 07:00 - 11:00 UTC 4 March  
NSARA Contest 12:00 – 16:00 UTC and 18:00 - 22:00 UTC 4 March  
SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest, 12:00 - 14:00 UTC 4 March  
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 5 March  
ARS Spartan, 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 6 March  
AGCW YL-CW Party, 19:00 - 21:00 UTC 6 March

*Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter*

